13.   (Once Amended) A method for controlling document region analysis, comprising the steps of:

analyzing a digital document to determine a number of regions thereon and a data type for each of the regions, the data type for each region being one of a number of predefined data types; and

selecting ~~identifying~~ at least one of the predefined data types for further processing; and

displaying the digital document in a user interface, wherein only ones of the regions that comprise one of the predefined data types selected in the selection interface appear in the digital document displayed in the user interface.
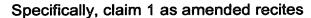
REMARKS

Upon entry of this Reply, claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-15 and 17-18 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 7 and 13 have been amended and claims 4, 10 and 16 have been canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the following remarks.

As an initial matter, it is noted that the Office Action states that

"The Examiner understands that this invention is directed towards control of document region analysis by determining a number of regions, and predefined data types associated with such regions as selected on a selection interface."

Applicant respectfully points out that the invention is defined in the claims. Consequently, Applicant objects to the above statement to the extent that it contradicts or otherwise incorrectly characterizes the present invention as set forth in the claims, *etc.*

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14, and 16-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,999,664 issued to Mahoney et al. ("Mahoney"). It is axiomatic that anticipation under §102 "requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under construction." WL Gore and Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc., 220 USPQ 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Applicant respectfully asserts that Mahoney fails to teach all the limitations of claim 1 as amended.

Specifically, claim 1 as amended recites

"a user interface that displays the digital document, wherein only ones of
the regions that comprise one of the predefined data types selected in
the selection interface appear in the displayed version of the digital
document."

Applicant asserts that this feature is not shown or suggested in Mahoney.
Specifically, Mahoney discloses a document search system that provides

"a user with a programming interface for dynamically specifying
features of documents recorded in a corpus of documents. The
programming interface operates at a higher level that is suitable for
interactive user specification of layout components and structures of
documents. During operation, a bit map image of a document is
analyzed by the document search system to identify layout objects
such as text blocks or graphics. Subsequently, the document search
system computes a set of attributes for each of the identified layout
objects. The set of attributes which are identified are used to describe
the layout structure of a page image of a document in terms of the
spatial relations that layout objects have frames of reference that are
defined by other layout objects. After computing attributes for each
layout object, a user can operate the programming interface to define
unique document features." (Mahoney, Abstract)

The application describes an invention in which the user may specify data
types that are not to be displayed in the user interface and are not to be further
processed so as to convert the data of the initial digital document into a form that is
recognizable by a predefined application. Nowhere does Mahoney show or suggest
omitting regions from a display that have been selected in the selection interface as
Applicant claims. A proper rejection under §102 requires that the claimed invention
be shown. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the rejection of claim 1 as
amended be withdrawn. Also, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of
claims 2, 5, and 6 under §102 be withdrawn as depending from amended claim 1.

In addition, claims 7 and 13 have also been amended to include limitations
similar in scope with those added to claim 1. Thus, Applicant asserts that claims 7
and 13 are allowable for at least the same reasons as described with respect to
claim 1 above. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully asserts that claims 8, 11, and 12
are in condition for allowance as depending from amended claim 7 and that claims
14, 17 and 18 are allowable as depending from amended claim 13. Therefore,
Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection to claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11-14, 17 and 18
be withdrawn.

In addition, claims 3, 9, and 15 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Mahoney in view of US patent 5,995, 996 issued to Venable ("Venable"). It has long been accepted that prima facie case of obviousness established only when the teachings from the prior art itself appear to have shown or suggested the claimed subject matter to a person of ordinary skill in the art. In re Rijckaert, 9 F.3d 1531, 28 USPQ2d 1955, 1956 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Applicant respectfully asserts that the cited combination of references fail to show or suggest all of the limitations in claims 3, 9, and 15 for at least the same reasons discussed above with reference to claims 1, 7 and 13 from which claims 3, 9 and 15 depend, respectively. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 3, 9 and 15 be withdrawn.

Attached hereto is an appendix that particularly illustrates the above amendments.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that all outstanding objections and rejections be withdrawn and that this application and all presently pending claims be allowed to issue. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding Applicants' response, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone Applicants' undersigned counsel.

Respectfully submitted ,

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APPENDIX

Below are the Amended portions of the present application with appropriate markings that illustrate the changes made herein. All added text is noted by underlining and all deleted text is noted by strikethrough (i.e. ~~example~~).

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Once Amended) A system for controlling document region analysis, comprising:

a digital document analyzer configured to determine a number of regions on a digital document and a data type for each of the regions, the data type for each region being one of a number of predefined data types; ~~and~~

a selection interface for <u>selecting</u> ~~identifying~~ at least one of the predefined data types for further processing<u>; and</u>

<u>a user interface that displays the digital document, wherein only ones of the regions that comprise one of the predefined data types selected in the selection interface appear in the displayed version of the digital document</u>.

7. (Once Amended) A system for controlling document region analysis, comprising:

analyzing means for analyzing a digital document to determine a number of regions thereon and a data type for each of the regions, the data type for each region being one of a number of predefined data types~~; and~~

selection means for <u>selecting</u> ~~identifying~~ at least one of the predefined data types for further processing<u>; and</u>

<u>user interface means for displaying the digital document, wherein only ones of the regions that comprise one of the predefined data types selected in the selection interface appear in the displayed digital document</u>.

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13.   (Once Amended) A method for controlling document region analysis, comprising the steps of:

analyzing a digital document to determine a number of regions thereon and a data type for each of the regions, the data type for each region being one of a number of predefined data types; and

selecting ~~identifying~~ at least one of the predefined data types for further processing; and

displaying the digital document in a user interface, wherein only ones of the regions that comprise one of the predefined data types selected in the selection interface appear in the digital document displayed in the user interface.